

THE WAR COMMENCED BY THE REBELS.—COPPER-
HEADS OF THE NORTH THEIR ALLIES.

SPEECH
OF
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IN
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 1, 1864.

PUBLISHED BY THE UNION CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.

We are soon to exercise the elective franchise, secured to us by our admirable form of government.

Every citizen should desire to use it so as to produce the greatest good to the country. To do so he ought to seek every possible means of forming a correct judgment; and when his mind is made-up, his own conviction of the right ought to control him, unawed by partizan prejudice or by the clamor of those who assume to be party leaders.

To aid in forming a correct judgment it is well to bring to our recollection many historical facts, which cannot be contradicted or perverted.

Directly after the American Revolution the States entered into articles of confederation for their government. The experiment proved a failure. The subsequent formation and adoption of the federal Constitution was for the purpose of "securing a more perfect Union;" of constituting the United States one nation—a Republic—or, in the language of Washington, of "consolidating the Union."

So complete a system of government never before existed, and it became the admiration of the lovers of liberty throughout the world. The prayers of its founders, as they passed from earth, were for its perpetuity. It was received by their children and cherished as an inheritance above all price. With them the man who dared to lisp of its destruction was branded as a traitor and an enemy of mankind.

L. Towers, printer.

In time, bold, bad men, disappointed in their ambitious aspirations, began to conspire for its overthrow. They knew that their designs could only be accomplished through the means of party organization. The democratic party, which then had the ascendancy, was selected for that purpose. They became its leaders and began insidiously to poison the minds of their followers.

It would require more time than allowed in an ordinary address to give the progress of their plans, but the result is to be seen in the present condition of our country.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the conspirators favorably to prepare their followers for the event, when their treason culminated in their attack upon Fort Sumpter, the whole people of the free States declared that they would put down the rebellion at all hazards. Their mighty uprising for this purpose was the grandest and most glorious spectacle ever presented to the contemplation of mankind, whilst the fact that so many of the same people have since shown themselves lost to the feelings of patriotism which then controlled them, is the most melancholy event on the page of history.

Then, they determined to stand by the President in his efforts to enforce the laws and to maintain the integrity and supremacy of the Government.

Now, many of the same men denounce all his efforts with a bitterness equalled only by the denunciations of the traitors in arms against that Government.

Why this change and how produced? The answer is apparent—by assumed leaders of the Democratic party, who are now acting in concert with the enemies of their country in the vain hope that they may thus achieve political power.

Relying on arousing the partizan feelings of the past, they resort to the most glaring falsehoods to accomplish their purpose. They now tell their followers that the war was commenced by the people of the free States against their innocent and inoffensive brethren of the South, when they know that they utter an untruth.

The people cannot be thus deceived. They remember but too well the action of the conspirators immediately after the election of Mr. Lincoln and previous to the expiration of Mr. Buchanan's term of office.

Look at the record:

December 20, 1860.—Capture of Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney by the South Carolina troops.

January 3, 1861.—Capture of Fort Pulaski by the Savannah troops.

January 3.—The United States arsenal at Mount Vernon Alabama with 200,000 stand of arms seized by the Alabama troops.

January 4.—Fort Morgan in Mobile Bay taken by Alabama troops.

January 9.—The United States steamer Star of the West was fired into and driven off by the rebel batteries on Morris Island when attempting to furnish Fort Sumter with supplies.

January 9.—Mississippi seceded; vote of the convention, 84 to 39.

January 10.—Fort Jackson, Fort Phillip, and Pike, near New Orleans, captured by the Louisiana troops.

January 11.—Alabama seceded; vote of convention, 62 to 29.

January 11.—Florida seceded.

January 14.—Capture of Pensacola navy-yard and Fort McRea by Alabama troops.

January 18.—Surrender of Baton Rouge arsenal to Louisiana troops.

January 19.—Georgia seceded; vote of convention, 203 to 87.

January 26.—Louisiana seceded; vote of convention, 113 to 19. New Orleans Mint and Custom House taken.

February 1.—Texas seceded; vote of convention, 166 to 7. Submitted to a vote of the people February 23 and took effect 2d of March.

February 2.—Seizure of Little Rock arsenal by Arkansas troops.

February 4.—Surrender of the revenue cutter Castle to the Alabama authorities.

February 5.—The Southern Congress met at Montgomery, Alabama.

February 8.—The provisional constitution adopted.

February 9.—Jeff Davis and Alex. Stephens were elected President and Vice President of what they call the southern confederacy.

February 17.—Twiggs transferred the United States property in Texas to the rebels.

February 18.—Jeff Davis was inaugurated President of the conspirators.

March 2.—The United States revenue cutter was seized by the rebels in Texas.

Mr. LINCOLN was sworn into office on March 4, 1861, *after* all

the above treasonable acts had taken place. Before taking the oath required by the Constitution, "to execute the office of the President of the United States, and to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States," he read his inaugural address, in which he said:

"Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There never has been any serious cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in all the public speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from those speeches when I declare that "I have no power directly, or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful power to do so and I have no inclination to do so."

The Congress, whose term had expired the day on which Mr. LINCOLN was inaugurated, had done every thing in its power to disarm the apprehensions of the southern States on the same question. It had passed a resolution submitting an amendment of the Constitution so as to make any interference with slavery impossible. It created governments for three new Territories, Nevada, Dakota, and Colorado, and passed no law excluding slavery from any of them.

The conspirators, however, continued their efforts for the overthrow of the Government:

March 5. Beauregard assumed the command of the troops besieging Fort Sumpter.

March 13. Alabama ratified the constitution of the traitor States: vote of the convention, 87 to 6.

March 16. Georgia ratified the constitution of the rebel States, and, previous to the first of April, all the States in rebellion had done the same thing.

The attack on Fort Sumpter was commenced on the 12th of April, 1861, and after thirty-four hours bombardment it surrendered.

All this took place before Mr. LINCOLN asked for troops to enforce the laws.

In view of these facts, no honest man can or will say that the war was commenced by the present Administration. To do so would be a proclamation of his own infamy.

Those of the North who are co-workers with the conspirators some times say, in justification, that the South had suffered wrong at the hands of the Northern people. The assertion is as false as the charge that the present Administration commenced the war. Let Mr. Stephens, the Vice President of the rebel States, be heard on that point. He, certainly, with them is good authority. In a speech made in convention against secession, he said:

"Pause, I entreat you, and consider for a moment what reason you can give that will even satisfy yourselves in calmer moments—what reasons can you give to your fellow-sufferers in the calamity that it will bring upon us? What reasons can you give to the nations of the earth to justify it? They will be the calm and deliberate judges in this case? and to what cause or *one* overt act can you point on which to rest the plea of justification? What right has the North assailed? What interest of the South has been invaded? What justice has been denied? and what claim founded in justice and right has been withheld? Can either of you to-day name one governmental act of wrong deliberately and purposely done by the Government at Washington of which the South has a right to complain? I challenge the answer! While, on the other hand, let me show the facts (and believe me, gentlemen, I am not here the advocate of the North, but I am here the friend, the firm friend and lover of the South and her institutions, and for this reason I speak thus plainly and faithful to *yours, mine*, and every other man's interest, the words of truth and soberness.) of which I wish you to judge, and I will only state facts which are clear and undeniable, and which now stand as records authentic in the history of our country.

When we of the South demanded the slave trade or the importation of Africans for the cultivation of our lands, did they not yield the right for twenty years! When we asked a three-fifths representation in Congress for our slaves, was it not granted! When we asked and demanded the return of any fugitive from justice, or the recovery of those persons owing labor or allegiance, was it not incorporated in the Constitution? and again ratified and strengthened in the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850?

Do you reply that in many instances they have violated this compact, and have not been faithful to their engagements? As individuals and local communities they may have done so, but not by the sanction of Government, for that has always been true to Southern interests. Again, gentlemen, look at another fact: when we have asked that more territory should be added, that we might spread the institution of slavery, have they not yielded to our demands and given us Louisiana, Florida, and Texas, out of which four States have been carved, and ample territory for four more to be added in due time, if you, by this unwise and impolitic act, do not destroy this hope, and, perhaps, by it lose all, and have your last slave wrenched from you by stern military rule, by the vindictive decree of a universal emancipation which may reasonably be expected to follow?

But, again, gentlemen, what have we to gain by this proposed change of our relation to the General Government? We have always had the control, and can yet if we remain in it, and are as united as we have been. We have had a majority of the Presidents chosen from the South, as well as the control and management of those chosen from the North. We have had sixty years of Southern Presidents to their twenty four, thus controlling the Executive Department.

No man has controverted, or can controvert these facts. Who then so base as to justify the rebellion?

While the Government is using every possible effort to maintain its existence, an organization has been entered into by many persons at the North to co-operate with the conspirators in its destruction. To accomplish their object, assuming the specious name of the "Peace Democracy," they resort to the meanest acts of the most grovelling demagogue to prejudice the people against the Administration. Read the following extracts from speeches and newspapers, made and written in the North in aid of the conspirators.

Speaking of President LINCOLN, the Sellingrove (Pa.) *Times* says:

"He is a bloody monster. He is hell's Pandora box brought to earth and re-opened for the destruction of this foolish people, who hang him to their bosoms until, like an Egyptian adder, he stings them to death. By his elevation to power,

every mean principle in the man's composition has been brought out and fanned into a blaze of destruction. He is a liar, a thief, a robber, a brigand, a pirate, perjurer, a traitor, a coward, a hypocrite, a cheat, a trickster, a murderer, a tyrant, an unmitigated scoundrel, and an infernal fool. In less than one year he has, by the force of circumstances, certainly not by his wisdom, become absolute monarch over a race of imbeciles, who, because they deserve it, have become willing slaves and vassals. He commenced the present war with dishonest motives; he has carried it on under false pretences; and, in the end, he will so effectually cheat the people out of their liberties that they cannot recover them unless through bloody revolution."

A Mr. J. D. Murphy, a "Peace Democrat" of New Hampshire, on the 22d January last, emitted *his* poison, as follows:

"The Democrats have submitted to the despotic sway of Abe Lincoln for three years, thinking it better to endure wrong for a short time than to risk all by a last appeal to arms. But now the time is coming when we can change our rulers. Rather than submit four years longer to Abe Lincoln, and be overrun by the hordes of his hireling soldiery, let us ring out the cry of old, 'To your tents, O Israel!' Democrats should arm and organize, and drill clubs, companies, battalions, regiments and brigades, for these blood thirsty abolitionists and shoddyite thieves, and traitors are a wind-broken, spavined, dyspeptic race, and one regiment of Democrats could whip three of them."

This man is for "peace" with the conspirators, but for war with the freemen of the North, his neighbors! Shame!

Read still further extracts—the outpouring of impotent wrath and vileness:

"There has never been anything called for by the South, and there never can be, that I would not willingly consent to."—*Speech of State Senator Clark, of Wisconsin, March, 1862.*

"History will relate that we (the North) manufactured the conflict, forced it to hot-bed precocity, nourished and invited it—*Detroit Free Press, April 16, 1862.*

"We tell them (Congress) that a Cromwell will rise in their midst before they progress too far, who will bring their heads to the block without delay or mercy."—*Free Press, March 24.*

"I say to you, my constituents, that, as your representative, I will never vote one dollar, one man, or one gun to the administration of Abraham Lincoln to make war upon the South."—*D. W. Voorhees, M. C., Seventh District, Indiana, April, 1861.*

"The Democracy will yet teach Abe Lincoln and his co-sunners that the way of the transgressors is not easy."—*Hon. A. C. Dodge, of Iowa.*

"This is a damned abolition war. We believe Abe Lincoln is as much of a traitor as Jeff. Davis."—*Ashland (Ohio) Democratic Union.*

"The President and his cabinet were never worthy of the confidence of the nation. The Democratic party should never have given its assent to the appeal to the sword after the affair of Fort Sumter."—*Detroit Free Press.*

"The *Ashland (Ohio) Union*, a Democratic organ, speaking of our soldiers, calls them hired Hessians going to the sunny Southern soil to butcher by wholesale, not foreigners but good men, as exemplary christians as any of our men."

"The *Crawford County Forum*, referring to our soldiers, says:

"It (the Administration) has put arms in the hands of outlaws, thieves, murderers, and traitors."

"The *Democratic Press*, Taylorsville, Ill., speaking of the Republican party and the army, says:

"In power less than a year it has spent millions of the people's money, and five hundred thousand men are employed to steal negroes from their Southern masters."

"If the North and South are ever re-united, we predict it will be when the Confederate States North shall adopt their new constitution, (of Jeff. Davis,) or some-

thing very near like it. There's a good time coming, boys."—*Van Buren County Press*, at Paw Paw, Michigan.

"Why this expenditure of more blood and treasure in a hopeless enterprise—why blame men for being traitors. We cannot see why."—*Detroit Free Press*.

"There, sir, is the damnable abolitionist who administers the Government. The people ought to rise up and by physical force, hurl him from the chair of the Government. In the eyes of God and men, the people would be justified. They should do it; and I will go with them."—*Judge Pratt's Speech* in the Michigan Legislature, Feb. 12, 1863.

"Geo. W. Peck, of Ohio, in a speech before the Lansing Democratic Association, March 1863, said:

"You Black Republicans began this war. You have carried it on for two years. You have sent your hell hounds down South to devastate the country—and what have you done? You have not conquered the South. You never can conquer them. And why? Because they are our brethren."

"John H. George, N. H., Democratic nominee for Congress, declared:

"I won't do anything to sustain the President, Congress or any of the piratical crew that have control of this Government. I won't do anything that can, in any way, be interpreted as supporting this war."

Mr. Charles Reeves was the leading member of the convention in aid of the conspirators, recently held in the ninth congressional district of Indiana, to select a candidate to run against Schuyler Colfax. On that occasion he delivered himself of a violent speech, advocating unconditional peace and reconstruction, condemning the Administration. He said that if the election was carried by fraud he should advocate immediate rebellion. He also advocated the doctrine of State Rights as enunciated by his Southern brethren, and advised an alliance, offensive and defensive, with the South. He said the idea of putting down the rebellion had long since become impracticable, and advised the delegates to frown down all attempts to raise soldiers or men to prosecute this infernal war. He was loudly applauded.

At the convention which nominated the State ticket in Indiana D. H. Colerick, a prominent member from Allen county, said:

"Nine hundred and ninety-nine men of every thousand whom I represent, breathe no other prayer than to have an end of this hellish war. When news of our victories comes there is no rejoicing. When news of our defeat comes there is no sorrow. There is a feeling which tells of an intense desire for peace, and we ask that some resolution be passed that is in union with the prayers of the heart of the Democracy of the country, that this horrible and bloody war must cease."

That the Southern portion of the conspirators fully appreciate the services of their Northern co-laborers is shown in the following article, copied from the Atlanta (Ga.) Register, of recent date;

"Ex-President Pierce, Seymour, of Connecticut, Vallandigham, Reed, Wood, Richardson, and hundreds of others, are as hostile to the war as they are to black republicanism. These men are doing us an indirect service. They are not openly and avowedly our friends, nor could we reasonably ask this of them. But they are not our bloody enemies. *United against Mr. Lincoln and his wicked policy*, breasting the power of an overwhelming majority, firm to the traditions and precedents of constitutional liberty, the noble band of patriots is striving to erect a breakwater that shall arrest the surges of the unloosed deluge. If they did no more than re-

sist the centralization of Mr. Lincoln, that far they are worthy of our respect and sympathy. If they hold up the banner of State rights, that far they are advocating a sentiment entitled to our admiration.

"Such is the course they are pursuing, and such a course ought to have our cordial approbation. Step by step the same convictions and the same temper that have braced them in compact unity and fiery valor to denounce ultra Federalism and New England fanaticism, will inevitably bring them upon the right ground as it respects our independence. We confess our faith in their political principles. We confess our confidence that eventually these men will see the whole truth and embrace all its conclusions.

"We can gain nothing by denouncing them. We may lose much by presenting a hostile front to their peace movements. Live with them under the same government we never will. *But, meanwhile, if they will use the ballot-box against Mr. Lincoln, while we use the cartridge box, each side will be a helper to the other, and both co-operate to accomplish the greatest work which this country and the continent have witnessed.*"

The Register is right. The men in Indiana and elsewhere in the North, banded together, by secret oaths, to aid the conspirators in the overthrow of the Government, deserve, and ought to receive, the "cordial approbation" of their Southern friends.

The expectation of the conspirators to enlist the whole Democratic party of the North in their treasonable scheme will fail. Thousands and tens of thousands have already denounced them, and other tens of thousands will do it as the infamous nature of those schemes become fully known. Their love of country will not yield to the party behests of assumed leaders.

As the election approaches, in the vain hope of securing a few votes, the leaders of the Northern portion of the conspiracy are beginning to praise the soldiers while they denounce the war! This hypocrisy will not avail them. Our soldiers are as well informed as those attempting to deceive them. They know that these very men have denounced them as "Lincoln's hirelings," as "hell hounds," hired to cut the throats of the Christian gentlemen of the South who are only indulging in the innocent amusement of destroying the Government!

They know that, in our State, when a proposition was made in the Legislature to secure the right of soldiers in the field to vote it was opposed by some of these now pretended friends.

It is true, as an electioneering trick, the conspirators on the State ticket, understanding that Governor Morton had asked for the return of the soldiers so as to recruit and vote, very *magnanimously*, proposed to join him in doing that which he had already done! The object is too apparent to deceive!

If this is an infernal war on the part of the Union army, as they charge, how can they expect the vote of those engaged in that war? The war cannot be denounced without, at the same time, denouncing those engaged in it. No sophistry, no decla-

mation, no yelling about abolitionism, can blind the eyes of sensible men to any other conclusion.

From the commencement of the rebellion to the present time the acts of cruelty and barbarity perpetrated by the rebels are more horrible than have ever occurred in any age of the world. The barbarity of Indian warfare bears no comparison to it.

A rebel, Colonel Eastman, has written a book, entitled "First year of the War." In that book he says:

"Like a thunderbolt, Kirby Smith fell upon the foe; our men fought desperate, and in a moment the Federal troops, who had felt certain of victory, were everywhere driven back. Scarcely had they commenced retiring when it became impossible to restrain our troops. A giant Texan, throwing away his rifle, took out his bowie-knife, with one blow he split the skull of a wounded man who had fallen to the ground, and this began the signal for a general butchery. Like wild beasts the incensed soldiery fell upon their victims, hewing, stabbing, slashing like mad men!

"A fearful panic seizes upon the Federal troops. Even the bravest fly before such an onslaught—they give way, and, in mortal fear, officers and men run for their lives like startled deer. * * * The savage spirit of our soldiers now almost bordered on the horrible. Beauregard took advantage of this vengeful mood; he ordered his whole army forward, and with wild exultant cheers fell upon the broken enemy. Stuart had collected all his cavalry together and swept across the plain like a whirlwind, clearing everything before him.

"The enemy was now at full flight at every point, and so quick was our advance that all order in our ranks was lost. A rumor suddenly spread that Kirby Smith had fallen. A cry of anger and horror passed through the ranks of the whole army. Our troops, now maddened with rage, fell mercilessly upon their opponents and a fearful massacre commenced. Scenes of horrible cruelty too fearful for description ensued. Our men were no longer human beings; covered with blood, and dust, and gunpowder, they fell upon their flying opponents with ungovernable fury!"

The butchery thus described by a rebel witness was followed by acts still more fiendish, rivaling the Scandinavians of a barbarous age, who, it is said, drank wine from the skulls of their slaughtered foe. The skulls of many a patriot, who had given his life to his country, were thus used by the rebels at their drunken carousel in commemoration of their achievements at the first Bull Run battle.

If their treatment of the dead be such as to receive the execration of mankind, what *can* be said of the horrible cruelty inflicted upon the living when in their power. The fortunes of war gave them a number of prisoners at Fort Pillow. Hundreds of these men, wounded and helpless, were butchered in cold blood—many of them on the day subsequent to the fight.

Any man in the rebel States daring to avow himself in favor of the Government of the United States is butchered by the "Peace Democrats" of that region.

In Randolph county, Alabama, recently, a Union man was

dragged from his house by the "peace Democracy" and taken to a thicket:

"After consultation it was determined to put him in the tory's yoke, but, first of all, to try to make him acknowledge to having done and said certain things of which he was innocent.

"After trying some time to accomplish their object, by questioning and threatening, they resorted to more severe measures. Untying him, they took off his clothing, laid him down upon a log, lashed him firmly to it, and with large hickory sticks commenced lacerating him. Four let in on him at once, and the numbers soon increased to six. They continued to beat him there for a long time, pausing occasionally and asking him if he would confess, and upon his refusing would let in on him more vigorously.

"The blood trickled from his back in streams. His piteous appeals in behalf of mercy were totally disregarded. Nature finally yielded, and the poor man swooned and was lost to consciousness for several minutes. As soon as he revived these hellish tormentors resumed their tortures. They split the ends of green sticks and twisting them in his hair and pulling violently, caused the most excruciating pain. This and other fiendish operations were continued for some time. They then cut off his fingers at the second joint, as also his ears close up to his head.

"The next step was to cut off his arms at the elbows, and the legs at the knees. After this operation the wretched victim fainted, and failing to recover for several minutes the murderers pronounced him dead and began to prepare to leave, but at this moment their victim showed signs of life. They now tied a rope around his neck, and hung him to a limb near by, and instantly decapated."

Who that has read of the horrors of the Spanish Inquisition—the rack, and the other modes of punishment there adopted—without a feeling of utter detestation for its founders?

The cruelties inflicted on the soldiers of the Republic at Libby Prison and Belle Island, are more horrible than those perpetrated in the secret cells of the great engine of hell, as the Inquisition has been called.

A history of those horrors would fill volumes; but we can only now glance at them.

Andrew J. Munn, of Company A, in the 100th Ohio Regiment, thus speaks of facts occurring under his own observation at Belle Island:

"The next morning we were parcelled and sent to that hell on earth, Belle Island where I witnessed sights of suffering for months that were horrible—awful—positively indescribable; and chill the blood and rend the heart with an agony of pity to remember. Day after day I have been forced to witness the slow, fearful death by starvation, of scores of our noble fellows, and to hear their agonizing moans and incoherent ravings, and pleading for something to soothe the pains of hunger. They would sometimes, when in this half-crazed condition, ask for something to save their lives, which they could feel slipping away. And their brutal jailor would drag them from their suffering couches, declaring that they would show them how to address gentlemen, and, despite their weak and emaciated condition, buck and gag the poor fellows, and force them to lie for hours beneath the scorching rays of the sun, and many times when they went to release the sufferers they would find a stiffened corpse, with the sunken eyes glazed in death, their fiendish treatment having snapped the frail thread of life, and the poor victim being at last beyond the reach of their persecution.

"One poor fellow, being reduced by starvation and ill-usage to a mere skeleton, and could scarcely stand, crawled one day up on a bank near his tent to get a little fresh air, his face burning with fever; but no sooner had he gained the summit of the bank and sat down trembling with extreme exhaustion that the exertion had

cost him, when the sentinel leaped upon the bank and harshly ordered him to get down or he would shoot him. The poor boy staggered to his feet at once, knowing full well what would be the consequence of hesitation, and attempted to get out of sight; but before he could turn round the rebel demon raised his gun and fired, the ball passing through the poor boy's side, who rolled down the bank and expired without a groan, his heart's blood spitting in jets from the ghastly wound.

"Another time a lot of our boys were crowded in a close, narrow, and filthy cell, scarce ten feet wide, with but one small, grated window for light and air, and some being sick were obliged to lie down, and, in consequence, the men were huddled and the air foul and oppressive; and one young fellow, who was almost suffocated, arose and put his face up to the window to get breath, when the guard upon the outside, without the slightest provocation, shot him through the head, his blood and brains bespattering his comrades inside of the cell, who, with a low, thrilling cry of horror, contemplated this brutal and cold-blooded murder of their unfortunate comrade without the power of even a remonstrance, for fear of sharing a like fate."

The testimony taken before the Committee on the Conduct of the War is of similar character. The surgeon who had charge of many returned prisoners at Baltimore thus speaks of them:

"WETT'S BUILDINGS HOSPITAL,

"BALTIMORE, MD, May 24, 1864.

"DEAR SIR: I have the honor to enclose the photograph of John Beinig, with the desired information written upon it. I am very sorry your committee could not have seen these cases when first received. No one, from these pictures, can form a true estimate of their condition then. Not one in ten was able to stand alone; some of them so covered and eaten by vermin that they nearly resembled cases of small pox, and so emaciated that they were *really* living skeletons, and hardly *that*, as the result shows, forty out of one hundred and four having died up to this date.

"If there has been anything so horrible, so fiendish, as this wholesale starvation, in the history of this satanic rebellion, I have failed to note it. Better the massacres at Lawrence, Fort Pillow, and Plymouth than to be thus starved to death by inches, through long and weary months. I wish I possessed the power to compel all the northern sympathizers with this rebellion to come in and look upon the work of the *chivalrous* sons of the *hospitable* and sunny South when these skeletons were first received here. A rebel colonel, a prisoner here, who stood with sad face looking on as they were received, finally shook his head and walked away, apparently ashamed that he held any relations to men who could be guilty of such deeds.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"A. CHAPEL

"HEN. B. F. WADE,

Chairman of Committee on the Conduct of the War."

Photographs were taken of a few of these victims of the *human* treatment by our *innocent Southern brethren*, and printed in the report of the committee. A portion of these are here presented. Look at them on the last page, and remember that the perpetrators of these damnable cruelties are the "Peace Democrats" of the South, whom Jo. McDonnald, Dan Voorhees, and Vallandigham are so anxious to hug to their affectionate bosoms, and the fathers and brothers of those who have suffered by starvation and death are called upon to elect *such* men to office.

These men say they want peace, and, to accomplish it, they are willing to let their co-conspirators prescribe the terms.

The only conditions yet offered them are the following, published in the *Richmond Examiner* of the 16th of last October. Read them:

"Save on our own terms, we can accept no peace whatever, and must fight till doomsday rather than yield one iota of them; and our terms are:

"Recognition by the enemy of the Confederate States.

"Withdrawal of the Yankee forces from every foot of Confederate ground, including Kentucky and Missouri.

"Withdrawal of Yankee soldiers from Maryland until that State shall decide, by a free vote, whether she shall remain in the old Union or ask admission into the Confederacy.

"Consent on the part of the Federal Government to give up to the Confederacy its proportion of the Navy as it stood at the time of the secession, or pay for the same.

"Yielding up all pretensions on the part of the Federal Government to that portion of the old Territories which lies west of the Confederate States.

"An equitable settlement, on the basis of our absolute independence and equal rights, of all accounts of the Public Debt and Public Lands, and the advantages accruing from foreign treaties.

"These provisions, we apprehend, comprise the minimum of what we must require before we lay down our arms. That is to say, *the North must yield all; we, nothing.* The whole pretension of that country to prevent by force the separation of the States must be abandoned, which will be an equivalent to an avowal that our enemies were wrong from the first; and, of course, as they waged a causeless and wicked war upon us, they ought, in strict justice, to be required, according to usage in such cases, to reimburse to us the whole of our expenses and losses in the course of that war."

These are the terms of peace; and the *Enquirer* says further:

"As surely as we completely ruin their armies—and without that is no peace nor truce at all—so surely shall we make them pay our war debt, though we wring it out of their hearts."

Are the people of Indiana willing to get down into the dirt and accept such terms!

These men cry "peace, peace." If they want peace why not say to their co-conspirators, "you made the war and you can make peace. Disband your armies—go to your homes—obey the laws—maintain the union of all the States and their authority, and you can have peace." Why do they not do so?

No man more earnestly desires peace than he whose sworn duty it is to make every possible effort to maintain the Union; but he wants that peace which can only be secured and perpetuated by the overthrow of the rebellion and return of the people to their allegiance to the Government. This, under God, and by the assistance of the loyal portion of the people, he will accomplish.

In the last speech made by Judge Douglas on the rebellion, he said:

"The conspiracy is known. Armies have been raised, war is levied to accomplish it. There are only two sides to the question. Every man must be for the United States or against it. There can be no neutrals in this war, *only patriots and traitors.*"

Judge Douglas was right. That is the only issue; all others are raised to deceive the people. Let no man, by his act, sub-

ject himself to be pointed at in after times as a traitor to his country; nor let him do anything, in this dread hour, which shall cause his children to blush for shame when he shall have left the land of the living.

The rebellion in favor of extending and perpetuating slavery, brought the continuance of that institution directly in issue. To aid in putting the rebellion down it was determined to liberate the slaves, as far as possible, and to use them in our armies. Availing themselves of the existing prejudice against the negro, the northern aiders and abetors of the rebellion have proclaimed that the only object of the war is to place the negro upon a social equality with the whites!

The only answer to which such trash is entitled is, to give the leaders of the "peace Democracy" assurances that no law shall be enacted to prevent *their* associating with negroes on as perfect equality as they may desire, *provided* the consent of the negroes themselves be first obtained!

It may be that Providence has permitted the rebellion for the purpose of forever settling the slavery question. It may be that the prayers of the slaves for deliverance, which have ascended to God for two hundred years, have been heard at last; and it may be, that, in His Divine Wisdom, the present is the time selected for the last shackle to be wrested from the lacerated limbs of humanity; and if so, who will not joyfully exclaim, "Let God's will be done!"

In its consummation behold the grand and glorious spectacle! Instead of a government founded on the sighs and groans of men and women, as contemplated in the establishment of the southern confederacy, we shall have a free and united Republic, whose happiness and prosperity, and all the elements of greatness shall be far greater than ever before known in history.

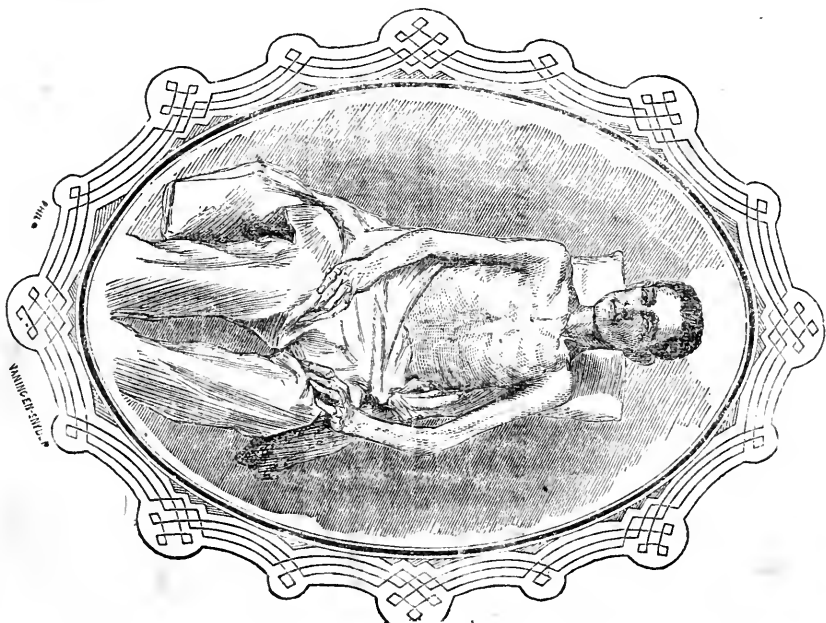
No other man than he who now fills the Executive Chair of the nation ever had so great a responsibility resting upon him. Called to his position by the suffrages of the people, he dare not shrink from the performance of his duty. That amid all the cares and terrible anxieties of his position, he has honestly and faithfully endeavored to perform that duty none can reasonably doubt. That he has always done what subsequent events have shown to be the wisest thing to be done, no one pretends. It is not given to man to see into futurity, nor to any one an infallible judgment; and yet, when the pen of impartial history shall record the events of the present time, all honor will be awarded to the man who

has so faithfully stood by his country in her hour of greatest peril, and against whose sagacity and statesmanship so little can be justly said.

"The life of that country depends on his re election. Defeated, and an ignominious peace will surely follow. The constitution of the slave confederacy will be adopted by all the States, and this continent will become a vast slave empire, to be ruled over by the most hated aristocracy that ever cursed mankind.

Are the people prepared for such an ending to the present struggle? Is it for this that they have been pouring out their life's blood for the last three years? Are they willing now to bow their necks in abject submission to the yoke of those who have been murdering their neighbors, friends and sons, in cold blood, or starving them to death in infernal prisons?

If not, then go to the polls in October, as preparatory for the Presidential conflict in November, and sustain those who are upholding the Government, and all will be well. The Republic *will* live and go on increasing in prosperity and happiness from age to age.



**U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL, DIV. No. 1,
ANNAPOLIS, MD.**

Private FRANCIS W. BEEDLE,

COMPANY M, 8TH MICHIGAN CAVALRY,

Was admitted per Steamer New York, from Richmond, Va.,
May 2, 1864. Died May 3, 1864, from effects of
treatment while in the hands of the enemy.

**WEST'S BUILDING HOSPITAL,
BALTIMORE, MD.**

Private JOHN BREINIG,

COMPANY G, 4TH KENTUCKY CAVALRY,

Admitted April 18, 1864. Improved a little for two weeks,
then gradually failed and died on the 12th instant.